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ALNWICK URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1965

ALNWICK URBAN DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Alnwick Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District during the year 1965.

The report is presented in the customary fashion, listing, first of all, the vital statistics of the area. These have changed in a small degree only.

There were slightly fewer births than in the previous year, and the level is about the same as the national average. It is satisfactory to report that there were no infant deaths during the year.

There was a drop in the death rate, and again this figure is about that of the national average. Deaths were mainly due to cardio vascular causes. One quarter of all deaths were due to coronary thrombosis, and a further quarter were due to vascular lesions of the nervous system.

There is little to report about infectious diseases. There were however, a considerable number of measles during 1965, demonstrating the well established biennial periodicity of this disease. A single case only of pulmonary tuberculosis occurred.

It is satisfactory to note that the immunisation level in the district remains at a high rate. In addition to the protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, poliomyelitis and smallpox, B.C.G. vaccination is offered as a routine to all senior school children.

The Public Health Inspector's report deals at length with the sanitary circumstances of the district.

It is noted that a further large batch of houses has been built by the Authority. This building, which has been going on over the past few years, has done a great deal to ease the housing difficulties in Alnwick. The steady demolition of unfit property and the gradually increasing numbers of Improvement Grants, all help to raise the housing standards. The effect of these measures on the health and well-being of the population, is obvious. A survey of the older properties in one part of the town was made by the Public Health Inspector. This showed that, although the number of houses which lacked all modern amenities was few, there were a considerable number of properties which were deficient in some respects. Every effort is taken to explain the advantages of house improvement to both tenants and landlords, and these policies are beginning to show effect.

The general standard of food hygiene in shops and catering premises is reasonably good, although constant vigilence is necessary.

In conclusion, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector for their interest and help during the year.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

John McNamara

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 4,778 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 2,428 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 32.

The rateable value was £246,380 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £936.

The estimated mid-year population was 7,600 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	57	55	112
Illegitimate	2	5	7
Totals	59	60	119

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.65
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	17.52
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.88

Still Births			
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	1

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	8.33
Total live and still births	120

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	-
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	-

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate	
Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	8.33

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-

Deaths	Males	Females	Total
	47	33	80

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.52
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	11.67
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes	-
Deaths from Cancer	10

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	-	2
" " Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
" " Breast	-	-	-
" " Uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	1	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	7	10	17
Coronary Disease, Angina	14	6	20
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Disease	4	7	11
Other Circulatory Disease	-	2	2
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	5	-	5
Bronchitis	3	-	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	2	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All Other Accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	47	33	80

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	-
Diphtheria	-
Measles	78
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY

1930-1965

Year	Number of Infant Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Infant Mortality England and Wales
1930	5	42.73	60
1931	7	68.32	66
1932	9	92.78	64
1933	7	60.87	63
1934	5	45.04	59
1935	3	27.77	57
1936	6	56.60	59
1937	Record Incomplete	40.0	58
1938	5	57.47	53
1939	Record Incomplete	-	51
1940	7	72.91	57
1941)		100.0	60
1942)	Record Incomplete	44.6	51
1943)		46.7	49
1944	4	35.7	45
1945	9	74.6	46
1946	8	59.4	43
1947	11	62.5	41
1948	10	55.2	34
1949	4	30.6	32
1950	1	7.7	30
1951	1	8.8	30
1952	2	15.1	28
1953	4	24.3	27
1954	5	24.6	25
1955	3	20.83	25
1956	3	21.89	24
1957	4	28.98	23
1958	2	16.00	22
1959	1	7.69	22
1960	3	21.58	21
1961	1	8.06	21
1962	9	64.28	21
1963	-	-	21
1964	2	15.74	21
1965	-	-	19

IMMUNISATION

North No. 2

	Primary Immunisation							Secondary (Reinforcing) Injections						
	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	152	258	20	9	2	-	441	-	5	194	31	77	5	312
Diphtheria and Tetanus	1	2	-	1	11	-	15	-	2	47	11	286	8	354
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	3	8	11
Total	153	260	20	10	16	2	461	-	7	241	42	366	22	678

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

North No. 2

Number Vaccinated during Period					Number Re-vaccinated				
Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total
60	142	43	11	256	-	4	8	36	48

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

North No. 1 and 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1966.

	Number of Persons
3 Doses - Oral Vaccine	999
Booster dose oral	1,094

B.C.G. VACCINATIONS

North No. 2

Alnwick U.D.	245
Alnwick R.D.	-
Amble U.D.	121
Rothbury R.D.	59
Total	425

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1965

HOUSING

(a) STATISTICS

New houses completed during the year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	31	-	31
(b) By other Housing Authority	-	-	-
(c) By Private Persons	-	1	1

Total number of inhabited houses in district	2428
Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority	1104

Closing and Demolitions	Number of Houses
1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	-
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	3
3. Houses closed, not demolished	7
4. Houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in the above	-
Repairs - Houses made fit	
5. By informal action	4
6. By owners, following statutory notice	-
7. By local authority in default of owners	-
8. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction	-
Houses Patched	
9. Houses in clearance areas still in use at end of year for temporary accommodation	-
Clearance Programme	
10. Number of unfit houses in clarance programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year.	40

Improvement Grants	Number of separate houses
(a) Discretionary Grants	
1. Applications submitted to Local Authority during the year	12
2. Applications rejected	1
3. Applications approved	11
4. Approximate average grant approved per house	£346
5. Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	124

(b) Standard Grants	During the Year	Total to date
1. Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	4	38
2. Number of houses so provided with		
(a) Bath or shower	3	29
(b) Wash-hand basin	3	31
(c) Hot water supply	3	26
(d) Water closet	4	33
(e) Food store	3	25

(b) CLAYPORT NORTH WEST AREA

All 31 houses in Phase III of the Programme were completed and 29 occupied. The remaining 2 houses are to be purchased by the Northumberland County Constabulary to provide additional police houses.

It was decided not to build a house and shop on this estate, but to provide in lieu two additional 3 bedroom type houses.

(c) SHEPHERDS REST HOUSING SITE (PHASE I)

The tender of Messrs. R. Carse & Sons Ltd., was accepted, for the construction of roads and sewers.

The site will accommodate about 60 private houses.

(d) SLUM CLEARANCE (Circular 11/65)

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has decided to take a fresh look at the problem of identifying slums.

A sub Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee has been appointed to assist him. It will, among other things consider the practicability of establishing objective criteria which could be used in a statistical analysis of how much of the Nation's housing stock is unfit for human habitation. If such criteria can be established it will enable Local Authorities to review their slum problems for the first time on the basis of common standards.

In the meantime, the Minister wishes Local Authorities to make a final estimate of the total number of houses considered to be unfit for human habitation by the standard which they now apply when considering whether property should be condemned.

At the end of the year there remained an estimated total of 40 dwellings to be dealt with under our clearance programme.

(e) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

There has been a slight increase in the number of applications for grant in comparison to the previous two years.

A survey was made of the Duke Street/Bridge Street area to ascertain the number of houses which lacked the Standard Grant amenities.

The area comprised East Parade, West Parade, Duke Street, Bridge Street, Queen Street, Victoria Terrace, Wagonway Road, Lovaine Buildings, and 1-19 (odd numbers only) Swansfield Park Road.

As a result of this survey the following information was obtained:-

Total houses in area	134
Applications made and approved for Grant before commencement of survey. (Descretionary 30, Standard 19)	49
Houses visited re. Standard Grant amenities	85
Houses with all Standard amenities	37
Houses with no Standard amenities	9
Houses lacking two or more Standard amenities	24
Houses lacking one Standard amenity	15

During the survey the kinds of grant available were explained to occupants, and a leaflet 'Improve your house with a grant' was given to them.

65 per cent of the tenants in the area are owner/occupiers.

(f) REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the district.

	HOUSES ERECTED				HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED			
Year	By Private Persons	By Local Authority	By other Housing Authorities	Total	Demolished	Houses or Parts Closed	Total	
1957	7	64	-	71	5	3	8	N.B.
1958	4	-	-	4	12	2	14	3 dwellings reported
1959	6	-	1	7	10	-	10	as "Closed" have
1960	21	-	-	21	22	2	24	since been demolished
1961	23	11	-	34	5	2	7	and are included in
1962	25	21	-	46	31	6	37	figures
1963	4	19	-	23	24	9	33	
1964	1	33	3	37	15	2	17	
1965	1	31	-	32	3	7	10	
Total	92	179	4	275	127	33	160	

WATER SUPPLY

The district is served by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and cottages on Alnwick Moor by the Alnwick Freemen.

A plentiful and wholesome supply was maintained throughout the year.

The Freemen's supply and that of the High Supply of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, are untreated. No samples were taken of the low supply (Coquet Water Board) before treatment.

One sample was taken for chemical analysis and the bacteriological condition was extremely unsatisfactory. It contained 180+ coliform organisms per 100 milliletres of water and these proved to be E coli of faecal origin. The sample was taken from a land spring at Redesdale, The Moor, where it was proposed to pipe to a farm house and cottage. This scheme was finally abandoned.

RESULTS OF WATER SAMPLES (BACTERIOLOGICAL)

Source of Supply	Whether water treated or untreated	Satisfactory Class I	Satisfactory Class II	Suspicious Class III	Unsatisfactory Class IV
Alnwick Low Supply (C.W.B.)	Treated	8	-	-	-
Alnwick High Supply	Untreated	9	-	-	-
Freemen's Supply	Untreated	3	-	-	-

The number of dwelling houses, and the number of the population supplied from public water mains are as follows:-

	Number of Dwelling Houses	Populations Supplied
(a) Direct to houses	2340	7362
(b) By means of standpipes	15	29

FOOD

(1) MILK

All dealers' licences are granted by the Northumberland County Council as the food and drugs authority, and regular sampling has been carried out by the County Public Health Inspector.

Results of Samples (Bacteriological)

Designation	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Untreated	3	2
Pasteurised	31	-

One sample was found to be negative for tuberculosis and Br. Abortus.

2. ICE CREAM

24 premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Acts for the sale of ice cream and three for manufacture and sale of ice cream.

Two of the manufacturers use the "complete cold mix". 8 samples were taken, 7 of which were from local manufacturers, and the results are as follows:-

Number of Samples	Time taken to reduce methylene blue	Prov. Grade
3	Not decolourised at the end of 4 hours	1
2	Decolourised at the end of $3\frac{1}{2}$ & $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours	2
1	Decolourised at the end of 1 hour	3
2	Decolourised at 0 hours	4

3. FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1960

91 visits were made to the 109 food premises, and any contraventions or deficiencies were brought to the notice of the food trades concerned.

The following defects or deficiencies were remedied:-

Walls and ceilings redecorated	6
Wash-hand basins provided	5
Hot water provided	2
Floors repaired	2
Walls and ceilings repaired	2
First aid equipment provided	2
Increased ventilation provided	1
Sinks provided	1
Work bench repaired	1
New counter and equipment provided	1
Soap, Towels, Nail-brush, provided	1

There were no prosecutions during the year.

CATEGORIES OF TRADE PREMISES

	Number of Premises	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Number to which Reg. 19 applies	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Grocers, Self Service Stores General Dealers and Confectioners	36	33	8	8
Cafes, Snack Bars, School Kitchens, Boarding House, Hospital Kitchens	24	24	24	24
Public Houses, Hotels and Social Clubs	21	19	21	21
Butchers and Fishmongers	8	8	8	8
Fruiterers	7	6	-	-
Chemists	5	5	-	-
Fried Fish and Chips (Consumed on premises)	3	3	3	3
Bakeries	2	2	2	2
Off Licence Premises	2	2	-	-
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	1	1	1
Totals	109	103	67	67

4. FOREIGN OBJECTS FOUND IN FOOD

One complaint was received from a customer who purchased an 8 oz. tin of Butter Beans in which was a threaded bolt 1" in length.

The firm's representative was interviewed, and a report received from the Local Authority in who's area the factory was situated. It was decided not to institute proceedings. A warning letter was sent to the firm concerned.

5. FOOD INSPECTION (OTHER THAN FRESH CARCASE MEAT)

21 visits were made to food premises for the primary purpose of food inspection. The following were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed at the East Cawledge Park Refuse Tip:-

Sugar	516 lbs.	Eggs	76 dozen
Flour	321 "	1 hind-quarter Pork	32 lbs.
Margarine	145 "	Sausage	12½ "
Butter	28 "	Bacon	9 "
Lard	66 "	Cooked Meats	25 cans
Biscuits	74 "	Vegetables	15 "
Mashed Potatoes	48 "	Fruit	7 "
Tea	43 "	Cream	2 "
Raisins	37 "		
Confectionery	22 "		

Total weight of foodstuffs condemned - 1,597 lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two private slaughterhouses in the district. Both have been exceptionally well managed, and there has been no cause for complaint.

19 slaughtering licences were issued to slaughtermen.

Refuse from the slaughterhouses is removed by the Council twice weekly at a fixed charge of 30/- per week.

All carcases were inspected, and no tuberculosis or cysticercosis was found.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	462	16	3	1796	261
Number inspected	462	16	3	1796	261
All diseases					
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	-	4	-
Part " "	3	2	-	8	-
Offal condemned	70	5	-	22	11
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease	16.0	43.7	-	1.8	4.2

Total weight of carcase meat and offal condemned - 1,769 lbs.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No major works have been carried out to existing sewers.

With the development of the Shepherds Rest area for housing, it will be possible to extend the sewers to that part of Alnwick Moor from Clayport Bank to Reigham Quarry and part of the Rugley Road, which is unsewered.

REMOVAL OF TRADE AND HOUSEHOLD REFUSE

Two Bedford side loading vehicles are used. The man power per vehicle being one driver and two loaders. Both drivers assist in loading. A third vehicle, used for general purposes, can be used for refuse removal in an emergency.

House refuse is collected weekly from all dwellings other than a few isolated cottages on Alnwick Moor.

Trade refuse is collected weekly (twice weekly for defined trades in the summer months) from all premises where traders have agreed to contribute to the "Trade Refuse Scheme". This is based on the amount of refuse collected, the first bin being collected free of charge and a charge of 10/- per year per bin is made in excess of one. Trade refuse from small businesses where one bin is sufficient to meet requirements, is collected free of charge.

Builders refuse is removed to the refuse tip by the builders themselves, at an agreed price.

58 trades including builders, contributed to the Trade Refuse Scheme, and a total sum of £188. 15. 0d. was collected during the year.

All refuse is tipped on the East Cawledge Park Site, where one tip attendant is permanently employed.

No salvage is collected, and all waste paper is burnt at the tip. No record is kept of weights of refuse collected.

Tenders were invited for the extension of the concrete tube culvert, and this work was carried out by McLaren & Co. (Belford) Ltd. The culvert was extended 80 yards.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

The Act came into operation on 1st April, 1965, and amends the law relating to dealers in scrap metal and similar goods.

Section 1 provides for the registration of scrap metal dealers and the maintenance by Local Authorities of registers of persons carrying on business in their areas as scrap metal dealers.

From 1st July, 1965, no person may carry on business as a scrap metal dealer in the area of a Local Authority unless the appropriate particulars have been registered by that Authority.

Applications for registration were received from the following, and all have been duly registered:-

J. A. Gaines, 50 Clayport Street
J. R. W. McLaren, 40 St. Thomas Crescent (Registration cancelled on request)
G. E. Balmbra, 48 Lower Barresdale
R. Balmbra, 19 Elm Street
J. W. Hopper, 32 Green Batt

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

During the year, free hand washing facilities were provided in both conveniences.

These facilities consist of stainless steel wash-hand basins with running cold water, liquid soap containers, paper towel dispensing cabinets, and wire mesh litter baskets for soiled towels.

Whilst it is pleasing to note that the public are making use of these additional facilities, it is to be regretted that wilful damage has necessitated the renewal of two liquid soap containers and repair to waste pipes.

RODENT CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, imposes on a Local Authority the duty of keeping its district free from rats and mice, and for this purpose, a part-time rodent operator is employed, approximately 12 - 15 hours per week being spent on this work.

Treatments are given free of charge to all other than defined business premises and farms, where a charge is made, based on time and materials.

There was an increase in the number of properties inspected and treated as compared with the previous year's report, and two major rat infestations were dealt with. Four treatments were carried out at the Refuse Tip.

One sewer treatment was carried out but the extent of infestation was very small and only two manholes showed a part take of poison bait.

There were no infestation of ship rats.

	Type of Property			Agricultural.
	Non-agricultural			
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All others (including business premises)	
Number of properties in district	7	2430	583	28
Number of properties inspected	6	49	57	4
Total inspections, including re-inspections	14	77	81	5
Number of properties inspected and which were found to be infested by:-				
(a) Rats	4	13	18	2
(b) Mice	-	12	6	-
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	4	25	21	2
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	7	28	26	4

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1. 2. 3. 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	1	1	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	16	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	10	12	1	-
Totals	53	29	4	-

2. Defects Found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	-	-	-

3. Outwork

There were two outworkers notified as engaged in making and altering wearing apparel.

Both premises were satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

It was considered that registration of premises was completed by the end of 1964, but a further check early this year revealed a few unregistered premises. Vacated premises were noted, but it was found that incoming occupants made little effort to register, until visited.

The majority of general inspections were carried out in offices, and shops which had not received routine inspections as carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations. To obtain a fair assessment, inspections were made of premises both large and small. As a result of these inspection, it was found that few complied with the Act in all respects. Lack of thermometers, first aid equipment, and abstracts were the chief deficiencies, and it was noted that in some cases where abstracts were provided, they were kept in drawers and cupboards, and not displayed so as to be seen by employees. Lack of a supply of clean hot or warm running water to wash-hand basins were found in some small offices and shops, but soap and clean towels were usually provided. Where external w.c.'s are provided there would appear to be no provision made for lighting them, and some were not kept clean. In two offices, there was insufficient sanitary accommodation and washing facilities for the persons employed. It was generally found that those parts of premises to which the public have access were kept in a cleaner condition than the other parts. No cases of overcrowding were found.

Defects or deficiencies were brought to the notice of the employers concerned either by letter or by interview, and in the majority of cases, were rectified without delay. There would appear to be a desire on the part of the "Branch" office or shop to comply with the Act.

During the year, there was one accident reported. This concerned a male Chef who slipped on the stairs when carrying a five gallon pan containing two gallons of boiling soup from the kitchen to the still room, and suffered from extensive burns to the legs and abdomen. As a result of this accident, an inspection was carried out, but the staircase was found to be free from defects, and no further action was taken.

No light readings were taken due to the difficulty in obtaining a photometer before the end of the year. During inspections, however, it was noted that some lighting could be improved by cleansing of existing light fittings, and by lighter redecoration of passages. No glare was found. To obtain uniformity in administering this section of the Act, it is highly desirable that definite lighting standards be laid down.

REGISTRATION, GENERAL INSPECTIONS AND PERSONS EMPLOYED

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered during the year	Total Number of Registered premises at end of year	General Inspections carried out	Persons Employed
Offices	3	51	28	244
Retail shops	7	109	25	399
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	4	-	9
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	6	15	8	106
Totals	16	179	61	758
		TOTAL MALES		271
		TOTAL FEMALES		487

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises 102

NUMBER OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Slaughterhouses	-	Meat inspections	234	
Butchers Shops	-	Meat Inspections (including poultry)	8	
Food premises	-	Inspections (Food Hygiene Regulations)	91	
Food premises	-	Food Inspections	21	
Food premises	-	Re. Corned Beef	27	
Ice-cream vehicles, manufacturers and sampling			12	
Milk vehicles and premises	-	Milk and Dairies Regulations	5	398

Public Health Acts

Drainage	144	
Building Byelaws	39	
Refuse removal and refuse tip	26	
Public Conveniences	17	
Verminous Premises	20	
Water Sampling	7	
Nuisances	10	
Sanitary Accommodation (Public Houses)	7	
Piggeries, stables and pigeons	8	
Sewage Works	12	290

Housing Acts

Inspections	- improvement grants	38	
	- valuations for advances	5	
1957 Act	- house inspections (Sec. 3)	76	
	- repairs (Sec. 9)	9	
	- unfit houses - (closing orders Sec. 17)	12	
	- demolition	4	
	- survey, Standard Grant amenities Bridge St./Duke St. area	94	
	- Inspections re. repairs, etc. (Council Houses)	24	262

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Inspections	- factories with mechanical power	16	
	- factories non-mechanical power	1	
	- building sites, etc.	12	29

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

General Inspections	61	
Registrations and re-visits	41	102

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Surveys, treatments and revisits	102

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

Re-registration and inspections	8

Miscellaneous - Including Interviews	152
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT	1,343

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS. NOTICES SERVED

	Informal	Complied with	Statutory	Complied with	Executed in default by Local Authority
Public Health Act, 1936					
Sec. 39 - drainage	3	4	-	-	-
45 - W.C.'s	3	4	-	-	-
93 - Nuisances	2	2	-	-	-
Housing Act, 1957					
Sec. 9 - Repairs	4	4	-	-	-
Totals	12	13	-	-	-

Housing Act 1957

Notices of time and place re. Closing or Demolitions	7
Demolition Orders served	3
Closing Orders served	2

Public Health Acts

Blocked drains cleared	8
Houses disinfested re. vermin	9
Wasps nests destroyed	5